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Summary of Alberta Results from the 1987 Follow-up of 1982 Graduates

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Alberta
CAREER DEVELOPMENT
AND EMPLOYMENT

Labour Market Research & Information Branch
Policy and Research Division

Executive Summary

In 1987, Statistics Canada surveyed the 1982 graduates from Canada's universities, colleges and trade/vocational institutes to assess their labour-market experiences approximately five years after graduation. This report presents the key findings from the Alberta data in this survey and compares these findings to those obtained from a 1984 survey of these 1982 graduates (the National Graduates Survey).

The Alberta population of 1987 graduates was divided into four levels of certification: 1) Graduate (Masters Certificate, Masters Degrees and Doctorate Degrees); 2) Undergraduate (Bachelors and first Professional Degrees and Undergraduate Diplomas/Certificates); 3) College/Technical (graduates of programs one year or longer at colleges or technical institutes); 4) Trade/Vocational (graduates of skilled trades, i.e. pre-employment programs, which normally are 3 months or more in duration).

1. In both 1984 and 1987, over 86 percent of graduates at all levels of certification participated in the labour force, and over 80 percent of graduates in the labour force were employed. For the most part, unemployment rates declined steadily between graduation and 1987. Graduate Degree holders exhibited the lowest rates of unemployment at all points during the five year period, while Trade/Vocational graduates exhibited the highest rates.

2. Though the vast majority of graduates in both 1984 and 1987 were paid employees, between 1984 and 1987, there was a small increase in the proportion of graduates who were self-employed.

3. In both 1984 and 1987, university graduates clustered in a few professional occupations such as management and teaching. College/Technical and Trade/Vocational graduates, on the other hand, were more widely distributed across the occupational spectrum, occupying supporting positions such as clerical and service occupations. In addition, over the five year period between graduation and the 1987 survey, Graduate Degree holders were the least mobile in the labour market; graduates from the other three levels of certification were more likely to change employers, occupations, and industries.

4. The vast majority of graduates were permanent, full-time employees in both 1984 and 1987. However, between 1984 and 1987, the proportion of graduates occupying permanent positions increased substantially, while the proportion of graduates working full-time remained relatively constant.

5. In both 1984 and 1987, earnings varied according to certification level and gender. Graduate Degree holders had, by far, the highest earnings of all graduates, and males, at all levels of certification, earned more than females.

6. Considerably fewer graduates were satisfied with their salaries than were satisfied with their jobs. Even so, over 75 percent of graduates in both 1984 and 1987 were satisfied or very satisfied with their salaries.

7. Between 1984 and 1987, the proportion of graduates overqualified for their jobs declined at all levels except the College/Technical. However, with the exception of the Undergraduate Degree level, over a third of graduates were still overqualified for their jobs in 1987.

8. Between 1984 and 1987, with the exception of the Trade/Vocational level, the percentage of graduates working in jobs directly related to their programs of study increased from just over one-half to roughly two-thirds.

Table of Contents

Page

Executive Summary i

Table of Contents iii

List of Tables v

List of Figures vii

1.0 Introduction 1

2.0 Background 2

2.1 Survey Objectives 3
2.2 Survey Population and Subpopulations 3
2.3 Data Collection and Processing 5
2.4 Interpretation of Survey Results 5

3.0 Graduate Population 6

3.1 Demographic Profile 6

3.1.1 Age 6
3.1.2 Gender 7
3.1.3 Marital Status 7
3.1.4 Dependent Children 8

3.2 Education Profile 9

3.2.1 Field of Study 9
a) Universities 9
b) College/Technical and Trade/Vocational Institutes 11

4.0 Labour Force Activity between Graduation in 1982 and Reference Week of Survey (March 1-7, 1987) 13

4.1 Labour Force Participation 13
4.2 Unemployment 15

5.0 Employed Graduates 18

5.1 Paid Workers/Self-Employed Workers 18
5.2 Occupations 19
5.3 Industries 23
5.3.1 Employment Mobility 27
5.4 Full-Time/Part-Time Employment 29
5.5 Permanent/Temporary Employment 31
5.6 Earnings 33

5.7 Salary Satisfaction 36
5.8 Job Satisfaction 38
5.9 Summary of Employed Graduates 40

6.0 Jobs, Education and Job Relatedness 41

6.1 Match Between Job Requirements and Attained Education 41
6.2 Satisfaction With Program of Studies 43
6.3 Relatedness of March 1987 Job to Program of Studies Graduated from in 1982 44
6.4 Importance of Job Relatedness 46
6.5 Summary of Education and Job Requirements 47

7.0 Further Studies After Graduation 48

7.1 Enrolment in Further Education 48
7.2 Higher Qualifications Obtained 49

List of Tables

Table 2.1	Alberta Pos:-Secondary Institutions Included in the Follow-up of 1982 Graduates	4
Table 2.2	1984 and 1987 Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates: Populations and Samples Summary	5
Table 3.1	Age Distribution of 1982 Graduates in 1987	6
Table 3.2	Gender of Graduates	7
Table 3.3	Marital Status	7
Table 3.4	Field of Study - Universities	9
Table 3.5	Field of Study by Gender - Universities	10
Table 3.6	Field of Study - College/Technical and Trade/Vocational	11
Table 3.7	Field of Study by Gender College/Technical and Trade Vocational	13
Table 4.1	Labour Force Participation Rates of 1982 Graduates 1983 to 1987	13
Table 4.2	Unemployment Rates Over Five Years Following Graduation Graduate Population and All Albertans	15
Table 4.3	Combined Period of Unemployment in 1986	17
Table 5.1	Job Status - Paid/Self-Employed - 1984 and 1987	18
Table 5.2	Occupations (Standard Occupational Classification) of University Graduates - June, 1984 and March, 1987	19
Table 5.3	Occupations (Standard Occupational Classification) of College/Technical and Trade/Vocational Graduates June, 1984 and March, 1987	21
Table 5.4	Industry (Standard Industrial Classification) of University Graduates - June, 1984 and March, 1987	23
Table 5.5	Industry (Standard Industrial Classification) of College/Technical and Trade/Vocational Graduates - June, 1984 and March, 1987	25
Table 5.6	Employment Mobility Between June, 1984 and March, 1987	27
Table 5.7	Job Status - Full-Time/Part-Time - 1984 and 1987	29
Table 5.8	Job Status - Permanent/Temporary - 1984 and 1987	31
Table 5.9	Estimated Median Annual Earnings of 1982 Graduates Employed Full-Time - 1984 and 1987	33
Table 5.10	Salary Satisfaction - 1984 and 1987	36
Table 5.11	Job Satisfaction	38

Table 6.1 Education Level Required for Job vs 1982 Educational Level 1984 and 1987 41

Table 6.2 Education Program Selected if Given a Choice Two and Five Years After Graduation 43

Table 6.3 Relatedness of Job to Program of Studies Graduated from in 1982 - 1984 and 1987 44

Table 6.4 Importance of Job Relatedness to Program of Studies 1984 and 1987 46

Table 7.1 Percentage of 1982 Graduates Enrolled in Credit Course(s) 1984 to 1987 48

Table 7.2 Percentage of 1982 Graduates Enrolled Full-Time in Credit Course(s) - 1984 to 1987 48

Table 7.3 Percentage of 1982 Graduates Who Have Completed Other Programs Since Graduation 49

List of Figures

Figure 4.1 Labour Force Participation Rates - 1983 to 1987 14

Figure 4.2 Unemployment Rates - 1983 to 1987 16

Figure 5.1 Top University Occupations - 1984 and 1987 20

Figure 5.2 Top Occupations - 1984 and 1987 22

Figure 5.3 Top University Industries - 1984 and 1987 24

Figure 5.4 Top Industries - 1984 and 1987 26

Figure 5.5 Employment Mobility Between 1984 and 1987 28

Figure 5.6 Percentage of Graduates in Full-Time Jobs - 1984 and 1987 30

Figure 5.7 Percentage of Graduates in Permanent Jobs - 1984 and 1987 32

Figure 5.8 Estimated Median Annual Earnings of Graduates Employed Full-Time - 1984 and 1987 34

Figure 5.9 Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's - 1984 and 1987 35

Figure 5.10 Percentage of Graduates Satisfied With Their Salaries 1984 and 1987 37

Figure 5.11 Percentage of Graduates Satisfied With Their Jobs 1984 and 1987 39

Figure 6.1 Percentage of Graduates Overqualified for Their Jobs 1984 and 1987 42

Figure 6.2 Percentage of Graduates in Directly Related Jobs 1984 and 1987 45

1.0 Introduction

In March 1987, the Federal Department of Secretary of State, in conjunction with the Department of Employment and Immigration, sponsored a nationwide follow-up survey of 1982 graduates of universities, colleges, and trades and vocational training institutes to determine their labour force experiences after graduation.

This report presents a brief descriptive overview of the results of the 1987 Follow-Up Graduate Survey for Alberta graduates. It is intended to provide manpower and educational planners and policy analysts with a summary of the key findings of the survey pertaining to Alberta graduates.

In the following section, a brief description of the background, purpose, objectives and methodology of the survey is presented. This is followed by a comparitive summary of the survey results, including employment characteristics of 1982 graduates in both reference periods, labour force activity prior to March, 1987, graduates' perceptions of jobs, education and job relatedness, and a graduate population profile which summarizes key demographic and educational characteristics of the graduates.

Further information on the results of the 1987 Follow-Up Graduates Survey of Alberta may be arranged by contacting Robert Nicoll, Director, Labour Market Research and Information Branch, Policy and Research Division, Alberta Career Development and Employment.

2.0 Background

The relationship between education and employment has been and continues to be widely debated. Some analysts argue that the economic value of a post-secondary education has diminished with time, pointing to evidence that a significant number of new graduates have found it difficult to obtain employment that makes use of their education. At the same time, manpower shortages exist in some highly skilled occupations.

In order to better understand the labour force experience of post-secondary education system graduates, the Federal Department of Secretary of State conducted a survey of the 1976 graduates in 1978, which addressed several issues associated with the transition from school to work. Employment, earnings, jobs search and mobility patterns as well as subjective assessments of the employment and contentment with past educational choices were the key areas addressed in the 1978 survey.

Following the 1978 survey, the limitations of the first effort to gather information in this area became apparent. With an ever increasing need for more up-to-date and complete information on graduates' experiences in the labour market, it was decided to repeat the 1978 survey in 1984, with the population of interest expanded to include graduates of skilled training programs at the trades level, and the scope of the study broadened to address the characteristics of those most affected by the recession, their market expectations, and satisfaction with jobs and career development potential, and the related issue of the impact of technological change on training requirements.

2.1 Survey Objectives

The specific objectives set for the 1987 survey included:

1) Obtaining information for labour-market analysis of a key youth group at a key time, focussing on employment, occupation and geographic shifts. These data and analyses will be useful for policy development with respect to education/training and the labour market.

2) Obtaining information on the relationship between education/training and labour-market experiences and the exposure of graduates to additional training in general and the Canadian Job Strategy programs in particular.

3) Extending available information required to improve occupational supply and demand projection models and to conduct related studies of supply-demand imbalances in the labour market.

4) Obtaining data regarding longer-term labour-market experiences of graduates, with special emphasis on employment and occupations, for use in counselling on careers and post-secondary education course selection.

2.2 Survey Population and Subpopulations

The target population was carefully defined to include all persons living in Canada at the time of the survey who graduated from or completed an educational program at one of five certification levels during the calendar year 1982. The five certification levels were: (1) Master's Degree, (2) Doctoral Degree, (3) Bachelor's Degree, (4) Diploma or Certificate for a program of one or more years duration from a community college, technical institute, etc. and (5) Diploma or Certificate for a skilled trade vocational program of three months or more. Graduates of university transfer programs offered by colleges and technical institutes, basic training and skilled development programs, job readiness, work adjustment training, block release apprenticeship training and occupational orientation were excluded from the survey.

The five levels of certification across each of the ten provinces and territories (combined) represented the 55 target subpopulations for the survey. The post-secondary educational institutions which contributed to the subpopulations of the survey in Alberta appear in Table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1
Alberta Post-Secondary Institutions Included in the Follow-up of 1982 Graduates

Subpopulations	Source Post-Secondary Educational Institutions*
Doctorate, Masters and Undergraduate Degree Graduates	University of Alberta, University of Calgary, University of Lethbridge, Athabasca University, Newman Theological College
College/Technical Institute Graduates**	**Colleges:** Grande Prairie Regional College, Grant MacEwan Community College, Keyano College, Lakeland College, Lethbridge Community College, Medicine Hat College, Mount Royal College, Olds College **Technical Institutes:** Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Southern Alberta Institute of Technology **Teaching Hospitals:** Foothills Hospital, University of Alberta Hospital, Royal Alexandra Hospital, Cross Cancer Institute
Trade/Vocational Institute Graduates	**Alberta Vocational Centres:** Calgary, Edmonton, Grouard, Lac La Biche **Colleges:** Grande Prairie Regional College, Keyano College, Lethbridge Community College, Medicine Hat College, Olds College

* Alberta post-secondary institutions not participating in the survey included: Canadian Union College, Camrose Lutheran College, Red Deer College, Fairview College and Misericordia Hospital.

** College/Technical Institutes were referred to as Career/Technical Institutions in the survey.

Table 2.2
1984 and 1987 Follow-Up Survey of 1982 Graduates:
Populations and Samples Summary, Alberta

Certification Level	Total 1982 Grads.	1984 Sample	1984 Sample as % of Total Grads.	Responding Sample in 1984	Responding Sample in 1987	Domain of Interest in 1987[1]	1987 Domain as % of Total Grads.
Alberta							
Graduate*	1,022	914	89.4	776	733	582	56.9
Undergraduate	6,504	1,034	15.9	832	770	724	11.1
College/Technical	5,926	1,361	23.0	1,031	941	915	15.4
Trade/Vocational**	1,153	747	64.8	415	368	359	31.1
Total	**14,605**	**4,056**	**27.8**	**3,054**	**2,812**	**2,580**	**17.7**
Canada							
Graduate*	15,387	9,355	60.8	7,176	6,451	5,061	39.0
Undergraduate	91,538	13,131	14.3	10,589	9,527	8,705	10.9
College/Technical	54,929	13,898	25.3	11,233	10,128	9,853	20.1
Trade/Vocational**	56,796	12,766	22.5	8,821	7,738	7,548	15.3
Total	**218,650**	**49,150**	**22.5**	**37,819**	**33,844**	**31,167**	**16.3**

* Includes Master's and Doctoral Degrees
** Apprenticeship not included

2.3 Data Collection and Processing

Interviewing took place between March 9-27, 1987, from Statistics Canada Regional offices. Two separate questionnaires were used, one for University and College/Technical Institute graduates, and one for Trade/Vocational graduates. Interviews were conducted by telephone and completed questionnaires were coded at Statistics Canada Regional offices. The questionnaires were then edited and the data were entered and processed at Statistics Canada head office. Copies of the edited data tape were subsequently provided to various interested parties for micro analysis. The data tape received by Alberta Career Development and Employment provided the basis for results presented in this report.

2.4 Interpretation of Survey Results

The results in this report have been carefully edited to ensure conformance with Statistics Canada's publication and release policy guidelines. These guidelines stipulate that only estimates that fall within a specified range on the supplied crude variability tables may be released. These estimates are of two types: unqualified estimates, which may be considered completely reliable, and qualified estimates, which must be interpreted with caution because of the small cell sizes that they represent. The results presented in this report are unqualified estimates unless otherwise noted.

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1 Refers to those 1982 graduates who responded to the survey in 1984 who were still living in Canada in 1987, and provided complete or partial information.l

3.0 Graduate Population

3.1 Demographic Profile

3.1.1 Age

There are major differences in the age structure of the graduate populations at the four levels of certification. Graduate Degree holders are noticeably older than respondents from the other three categories, while College/Technical institute graduates are the youngest.

Table 3.1
Age Distribution of 1982 Graduates in 1987

Age Group	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
24 or less	--	--	7.1	22.1
25-29	5.6	60.3	71.3	39.6
30-34	34.1	23.1	10.6	12.1
35-39	24.7	7.0	5.2	11.0
40-44	17.5	4.0*	2.4	--
45+	18.1	5.4	2.4	10.2
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**814**	**6,099**	**5,733**	**1,114**
Mean Age	**38.1**	**30.8**	**28.5**	**30.9**
Median Age	**36.0**	**29.0**	**26.0**	**28.0**

* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size.
-- Data are not reliable enough to be released.

Table 3.1 shows the age of the graduates in 1987 (that is, almost five years after graduation). Only 6 percent of the Graduate Degree holders were below 30 years of age in 1987, compared to three out of five of the Undergraduate and Trade/Vocational graduates, and four out of five of the college graduates.

The median age in 1987 was 36 for Graduate Degree holders, 29 for Undergraduate Degree holders, 26 for College/Technical graduates, and 28 for Trade/Vocational graduates.

3.1.2 Gender

As Table 3.2 indicates, women outnumbered men at all levels of certification except graduate degrees. Only two out of five of the Graduate Degree holders were female.

Table 3.2
Gender of Graduates

Gender	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
Male	59.4	47.9	44.9	42.8
Female	40.6	52.1	55.1	57.2
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total Graduates	**818**	**6,115**	**5,772**	**1,126**

3.1.3 Marital Status

We see from Table 3.3 that about three quarters of Graduate Degree holders were married, compared to about half of the respondents at other levels of certification; this is as might be expected since they are generally older. The incidence of separated/divorced/widowed individuals is two to three times higher for the Trade/Vocational graduates than for the other groups.

Table 3.3
1982 Graduates by Marital Status, March 1987

Marital Status	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
Married/Cohabiting	74.3	56.1	46.9	51.6
Single(Never Married)	19.2	39.0	48.3	35.7
Widowed/Separated/Divorced	6.5	4.9	4.7	12.8
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**815**	**6,100**	**5,730**	**1,110**

3.1.4 Dependent Children

On average, Graduate Degree holders had the greatest number of dependent children, closely followed by Trade/Vocational graduates (1.0 and 0.9 children per graduate respectively). Undergraduate Degree holders averaged 0.5 children per graduate, while College/Technical graduates averaged 0.4 each.

3.2 Education Profile

3.2.1 Field of Study

The field of study categories used in this report were derived from the five digit USIS (University Student Information System) and CCSIS (Community College Student Information System) codes that represent all possible programs of study in the university and college systems. The categories, however, are not directly comparable. Therefore, field of study information is presented in two sections: one on university graduates, and one on College/Technical and Trade/Vocational graduates.

a) Universities

Table 3.4 shows the distribution of university respondents across the seven major fields of study. The top two fields of study for both Graduate and Undergraduate Degree holders were Education and Social Science; these two fields of study accounted for over half of the graduates at both certification levels (64 and 55 percent respectively).

Table 3.4
Field of Study -Universities

Field of Study	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)
Education	32.8	19.4
Fine & Applied Arts	12.8	10.1
Social Science	30.6	35.1
Agriculture & Biological Sciences	--	5.1
Engineering & Applied Science	11.1	10.6
Health Sciences	4.6	13.8
Math & Physical Sciences	4.4	6.0
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**691**	**5,862**

-- Data are not reliable enough to be released

These patterns also hold when the university field of study data are examined by gender (Table 3.5). That is, Education and Social Science were among the most frequently chosen fields of study for both certification levels regardless of gender. However, the gender distribution within these fields was not uniform. Females were overrepresented in Education and underrepresented in the Social Sciences. At the Graduate Degree level, Education accounted for 33 percent of all graduates, 42 percent of them male and 58 percent of them female. Conversely, Social Science accounted for 31 percent of all graduates, 62 percent of them male and 38 percent of them female.

Similar patterns emerged at the Undergraduate Degree level. Here Education accounted for 29 percent of all graduates, 26 percent of them male, and 74 percent of them female. Graduates in the Social Sciences were more evenly distributed; 56 percent of them were male and 44 percent female. The total proportion of graduates accounted for by this category was 35 percent. However, though Education was among the top fields of study for males, the second most frequent field of study, next to Social Sciences, was Engineering & Applied Science. This field accounted for only 11 percent of all graduates, yet the vast majority (86 percent) of them were male.

Table 3.5
Field of Study by Gender
Universities

Field of Study Universities	Graduate Degrees (%)		Undergraduate Degrees (%)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Education	24.2	44.6	10.4	27.9
Fine & Applied Arts	10.5	15.9	9.0*	11.4
Social Science	33.5	25.7	40.8	30.1
Agriculture & Biological Science	--	--	5.5*	4.7*
Engineering & Applied Science	16.8	--	19.1	--
Health Sciences	--	--	6.8*	20.1
Math & Physical Sciences	--	--	8.5*	--
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**390**	**296**	**2,803**	**3,002**

* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size.
-- Data are not reliable enough to be released.

b) College/Technical and Trade/Vocational Institutes

While graduates from the university system tended to be concentrated in a few fields of study, graduates from the College/Technical and Trade/Vocational certification levels were more widely distributed.

Table 3.6 indicates that three-quarters of College/Technical graduates were concentrated in six fields of study: Engineers & Applied Science (16 percent), Management & Administration (15 percent), Health Services (14 percent), Social Sciences/Services (11 percent), Construction/Fabrication/Repair (10 percent), and Arts, Humanities (8 percent).

At the Trade/Vocational level, roughly the same proportion of graduates (72 percent) was accounted for by four fields of study. These were: Construction/Fabrication/Repair (24 percent), Health Services (19 percent), Secretarial/Clerical (17 percent), and Management & Administration (13 percent).

Table 3.6
Field of Study - College/Technical and Trade/Vocational

Field of Study College/Technical & Trade/Vocational	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
Arts, Humanities	8.1	--
Health Services	13.9	18.8
Engineering & Applied Science	15.8	9.9
Computing Science	2.6*	--
Construction/Fabrication/Repair	10.0	23.8
Agriculture & Related	4.5	6.0*
Resource Technology	5.7	--
Social Services	11.0	6.6
Secretarial/Clerical	7.5	16.8
Management & Administration	15.0	12.7
Sales & Service	5.9	--
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**5,764**	**1,123**

* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size
-- Data are not reliable enough to be released

An examination of field of study by gender, however, reveals radically different patterns than those exhibited in the university data. At the College/Technical level, females and males shared only one of their top three fields of study (Table 3.7). The top two male fields of study, accounting for 52 percent of male graduates were Engineers & Applied Science, and Construction/Fabrication/Repair. Females were poorly represented in these fields; their numbers were so low that they did not meet releasability criteria. The top two female fields of study were Health Services and Management & Administration; these two fields accounted for 41 percent of female graduates.

At the Trade/Vocational level, females and males shared none of their top three fields of study. The top male field of study, alone accounting for over half of male graduates was Construction/Fabrication/Repair. Again, females were poorly represented, exhibiting numbers so low that they did not meet releasability criteria. The top female field of study, accounting for 32 percent of female graduates, was Health Services. Males were poorly represented here; again, their low numbers did not meet releasability criteria.

Table 3.7
Field of Study by Gender
College/Technical and Trade/Vocational

Field of Study	College/ Technical (%)		Trade/ Vocational (%)	
College/Tech. & Trade/Voc.	Male	Female	Male	Female
Arts, Humanities	5.9*	9.8	--	--
Health Services	--	23.2	--	31.8
Engineers& Applied Science	32.1	--	23.4	--
Computing Science	--	--	--	--
Construction/Fabrication/Repair	19.5	--	52.4	--
Agriculture & Related	4.5*	4.4*	12.2*	--
Resource Technology	10.6	--	--	--
Social Services	3.8*	17.0	--	9.6*
Secretarial/Clerical	--	13.6	--	27.5
Management & Administration	11.8	17.4	--	20.2
Sales & Service	5.9*	6.0*	--	--
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**2,569**	**3,150**	**474**	**638**

* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size.
-- Data are not reliable enough to be released.

4.0 Labour Force Activity between Graduation in 1982 and Reference Week of Survey (March 1-7, 1987)

Between the first survey of the 1982 graduates (National Graduates Survey) and the 1987 follow-up, labour force status was measured at five points: the last week of January, 1983 (6-9 months after graduation), the last week of October, 1983 (15-18 months after graduation), the week of May 27 through June 2, 1984 (23-26 months after graduation), the last week of January, 1986 (approximately 3.5 years after graduation), and the first week of March, 1987 (approximately 5 years after graduation).

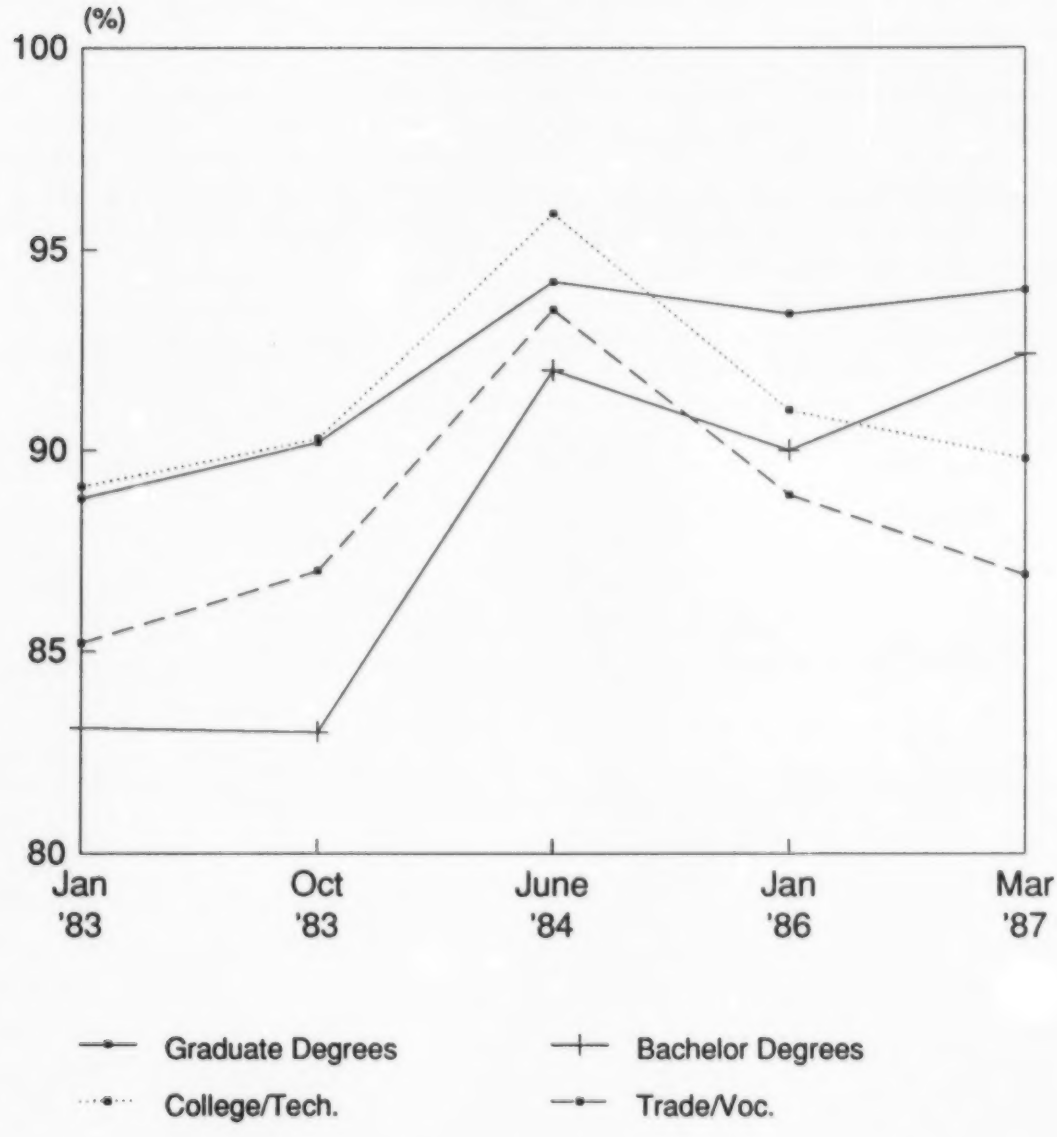
4.1 Labour Force Participation

Labour force participation peaked at over 90 percent in June 1984 (approximately two years after graduation) and then remained relatively constant at the university level while declining at the College/Technical and Trade/Vocational levels (Table 4.1 and Figure 4.1). In March, 1987, with the exception of the Trade/Vocational graduates, virtually all respondents were out of the labour force because they were full-time students, whereas at the Trade/Vocational level, full-time students accounted for roughly half of those out of the labour force; the remainder had dropped out of the labour force for other reasons, including attending to personal or family responsibilities.

Table 4.1
Labour Force Participation Rates of 1982 Graduates
1983 to 1987

Reference Period	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Tech. (%)	Trade/ Voc. (%)
January 1983	88.8	83.1	89.1	85.2
October 1983	90.2	83.0	90.3	87.0
June 1984	94.2	92.0	95.9	93.5
January 1986	93.4	90.0	91.0	88.9
March 1987	94.0	92.4	89.8	86.9

Figure 4.1
Labour Force Participation Rates
1983 to 1987



Source: Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

4.2 Unemployment

A comparison of unemployment rates in the first reference period (January, 1983) and the final reference period (March, 1987) reveals that unemployment rates had dropped considerably by March, 1987 at all levels of certification (Table 4.2 and Figure 4.2). Moreover, there was a general trend for unemployment rates to drop as time since graduation increased. However, Trade/Vocational graduates bore a disproportionate amount of unemployment at all five reference periods. Conversely, Graduate Degree holders exhibited the lowest rates of unemployment at all five reference periods.

Table 4.2
Unemployment Rates Over Five Years Following Graduation
Graduate Population and All Albertans

Reference Period	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergrad. Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)	All Albertans 25 - 34[2] (%)
January, 1983 (6-9 months after graduation)	5.4	8.3	11.0	27.3	12.3
October, 1983 (15-18 months after graduation)	5.5	5.7	7.8	18.6	8.1
June, 1984 (23-26 months after graduation)	8.0	8.8	8.2	19.2	11.7
January, 1986 (42-45 months after graduation)	--	3.8*	5.1	12.0	8.1
March, 1987 (55-58 months after graduation)	3.4	5.0	6.3	13.8	10.3

* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size.
-- Data are not reliable enough to be released.

When these unemployment rates are compared with the unemployment rates of Albertans of a similar age group, two trends emerge. First, with the exception of the Trade/Vocational level, the unemployment rates of graduates were lower than the seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates for Albertans aged 25 - 34 at all reference periods (Table 4.2). Moreover, in general, the gap between graduates' unemployment rates and 25 -34 year olds' unemployment rates widened at each reference period, again suggesting that post-secondary qualifications reduce unemployment, especially over the long term.

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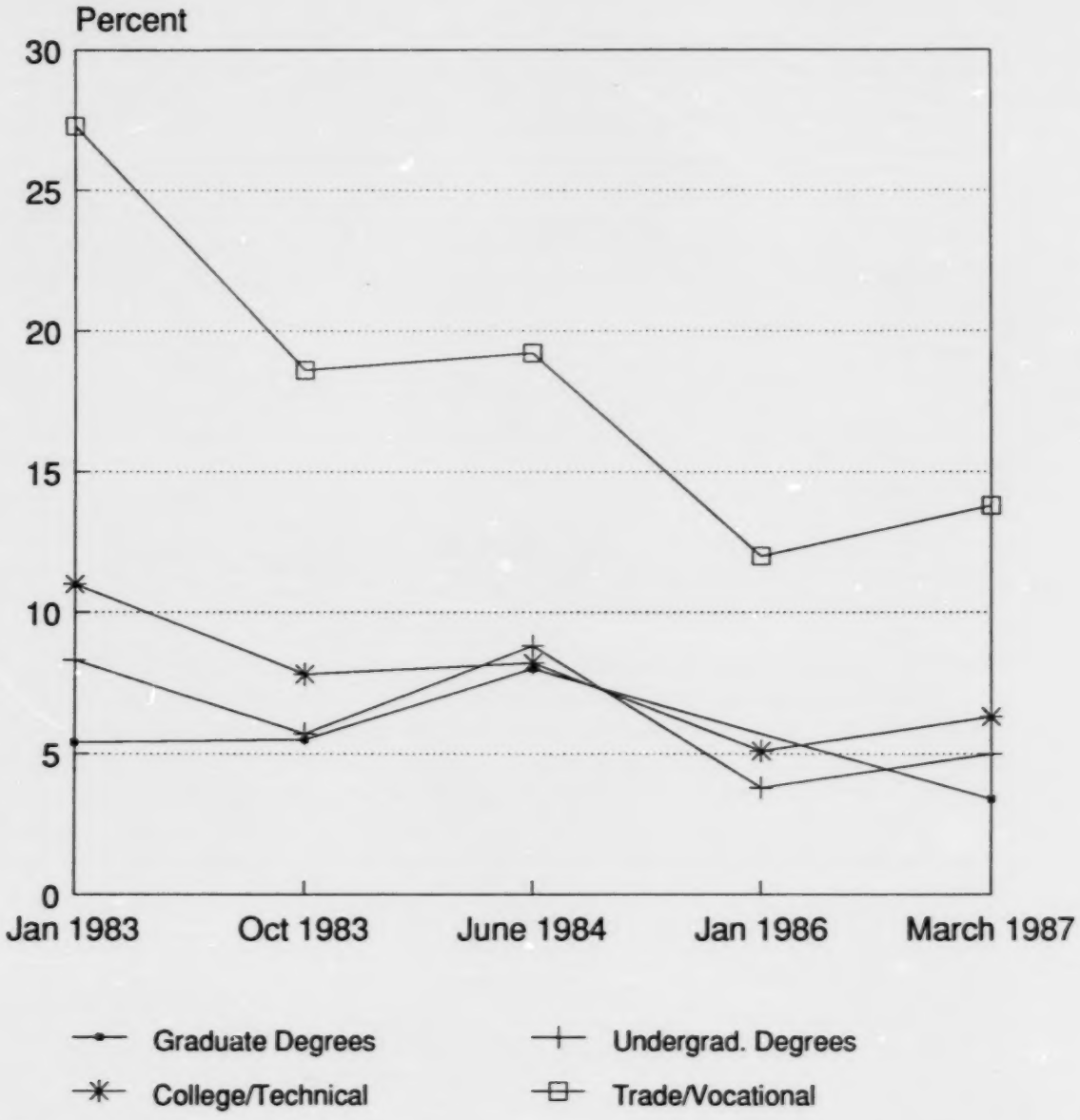
2 Statistics Canada, 71-001, *The Labour Force*, January 1983, October 1983, June 1984, January 1986 and March 1987.

Figure 4.2
Unemployment Rates 1983 to 1987



Source: Follow-up of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

In addition to experiencing steadily dropping rates of unemployment, Table 4.3 shows that, during the year of 1986, the vast majority of graduates, at all levels of certification, experienced no unemployment. However, this phenomenon was inversely related to the level of certification. That is, Graduate Degree holders had the greatest proportion of graduates experiencing no employment; each successively lower level of certification exhibited a smaller proportion.

Table 4.3
Combined Period of Unemployment in 1986

Combined Period of Unemployment in 1986	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
0 weeks	92.2	84.5	83.3	73.6
1-52 weeks	7.8	5.5	16.7	26.4
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

5.0 Employed Graduates[3]

5.1 Paid Workers/Self-Employed Workers

Nine out of ten graduates at all levels of certification were employed as paid workers in 1987. However, as Table 5.1 shows, between 1984 and 1987 there was a small increase in the number who were self-employed; this increase was most marked in the case of the Trade/Vocational graduates.

Table 5.1
Job Status - Paid/Self-Employed
1984 and 1987

Class of Worker	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
June, 1984				
Paid Worker	92.0	93.9	94.5	93.8
Self-Employed	7.8	5.9	5.5	6.2
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**746**	**5,250**	**5,098**	**837**
March, 1987				
Paid Worker	91.2	90.2	93.1	89.7
Self-Employed	8.7	9.6	6.7	10.3
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**740**	**5,354**	**4,834**	**838**

-- Data are not reliable enough to be released.

[3] Unless otherwise specified, the data on employed graduates are based on all employed individuals, including those self employed.

5.2 Occupations

Table 5.2 indicates the 1984 and 1987 occupational distribution of 1982 university graduates at all four levels of certification.

In both 1984 and 1987, the degree of occupational concentration was related to the level of education, with the greatest amount of concentration occurring among graduate degree holders. In 1987, 90 percent of Graduate Degree holders were concentrated in four occupational categories: Management & Administration, Teaching, Natural Science & Engineering, and Social Sciences (Figure 5.1). These were also the top occupational categories in 1984.

In both 1984 and 1987, 69 percent of holders of Undergraduate Degrees were concentrated in the four top occupational categories of Teaching, Management & Administration, Natural Science & Engineering, and Medicine & Health (Figure 5.1).

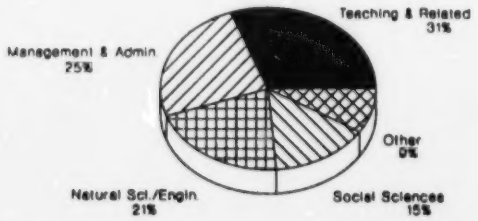
Table 5.2
Occupations (Standard Occupational Classification) of University Graduates
June, 1984 and March, 1987

	Graduate Degrees (%)		Undergraduate Degrees (%)	
Occupation	1984	1987	1984	1987
Managerial, Administrative & Rel.	24.6	30.1	12.5	15.6
Natural Sciences,Engineer., Math.	20.6	17.0	18.0	15.2
Social Sciences	14.8	14.4	11.3	13.1
Religion	--	--	--	--
Teaching & Related	31.2	28.3	23.4	23.3
Medicine & Health	2.5	3.8	15.2	15.0
Artistic/Literary/Recreation & Rel.	1.5	2.3	--	3.1*
Clerical & Related	1.8	--	6.5	5.2
Sales	1.1	--	3.4*	4.4*
Service	1.1	--	3.0*	--
Farming, Horticultural	--	--	--	--
Fishing , Trapping & Related	--	--	--	--
Forestry & Logging	--	--	--	--
Mining, Quarrying Incl. Oil & Gas	--	--	--	--
Processing	0.2	--	--	--
Machining & Related	--	--	--	--
Fabricating/Assembly/Repairing	--	--	--	--
Construction Trades	0.7	--	--	--
Transportation Equip. Operating	--	--	--	--
Material Handling & Related	--	--	--	--
Other Crafts & Equipment	--	--	--	--
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total Graduates	**743**	**748**	**5,357**	**5,486**

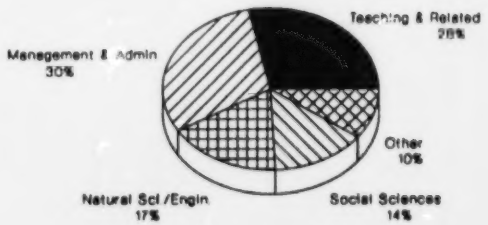
* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size
-- Data are not reliable enough to be released

Figure 5.1
Top University Occupations - 1984 and 1987

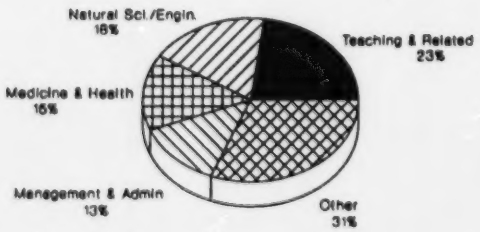
Graduate Degrees - 1984



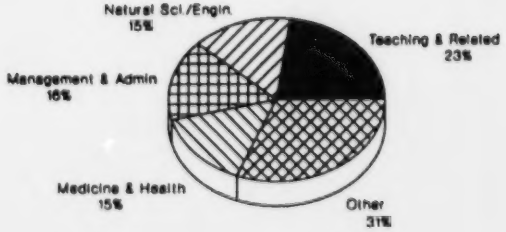
Graduate Degrees - 1987



Undergraduate Degrees - 1984



Undergraduate Degrees - 1987



Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

In 1987, at the College/Technical and Trade/Vocational levels, only 57 percent were in the top four occupational categories: Medicine & Health; Management & Administration; Clerical & Related; and Natural Science & Engineering (Table 5.3 and Figure 5.2). Trade/Vocational graduates were most widely dispersed across occupational categories, with the most common being Medicine & Health, followed by Clerical & Related, Service, and Fabricating/Assembly/Repair. As seen in Figure 5.2, the above categories also constituted the top occupations in 1984.

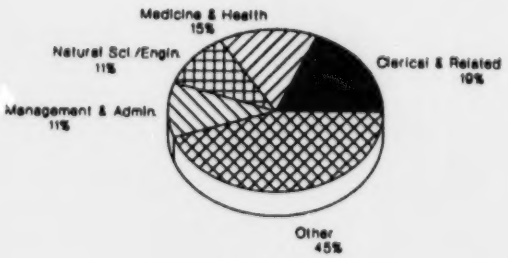
Table 5.3
Occupations (Standard Occupational Classification) of College/Technical and Trade/Vocational Graduates
June, 1984 and March, 1987

	College/Technical (%)		Trade/Vocational (%)	
Occupation	1984	1987	1984	1987
Managerial, Administrative & Rel.	10.8	15.4	--	6.6*
Natural Sciences, Engineer., Math.	10.9	10.5	--	--
Social Sciences	3.2*	3.3*	--	--
Religion	--	--	--	--
Teaching & Related	3.1*	3.8*	--	--
Medicine & Health	15.1	16.3	22.3	20.8
Artistic/Literary/Recreation & Rel.	4.0	3.9*	--	--
Clerical & Related	18.5	14.8	20.8	17.7
Sales	6.1	5.6	--	--
Service	7.4	5.5	10.0	11.0
Farming, Horticultural	3.7	3.4*	5.6*	4.7*
Fishing , Trapping & Related	--	--	--	--
Forestry & Logging	--	--	--	--
Mining, Quarrying Incl. Oil & Gas	--	--	--	--
Processing	2.0*	--	5.3*	--
Machining & Related	--	--	--	--
Fabricating/Assembly/Repairing	6.5	7.8	7.9	7.6*
Construction Trades	3.8	2.4*	6.2*	5.8*
Transportation Equip. Operating	--	--	--	--
Material Handling & Related	--	--	--	--
Other Crafts & Equipment	1.6*	2.4*	--	7.3*
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**5,103**	**4,917**	**855**	**851**

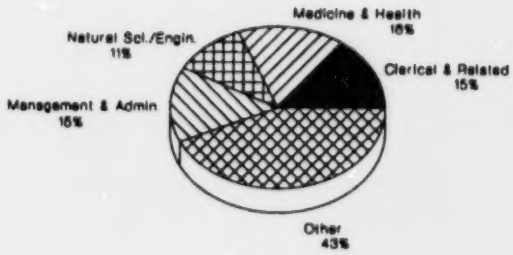
* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size
-- Data are not reliable enough to be released

Figure 5.2
Top Occupations - 1984 and 1987

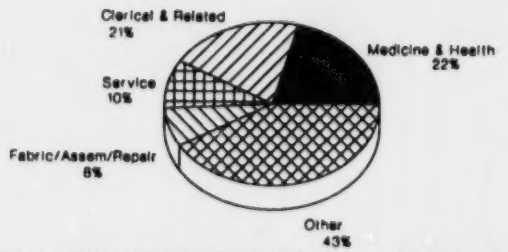
College/Technical - 1984



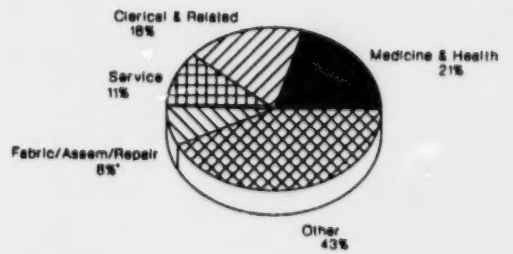
College/Technical - 1987



Trade/Vocational - 1984



Trade/Vocational - 1987



Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

5.3 Industries

As in the case of occupation, there were major differences between the levels of certification both in the industries in which they were mostly to be found, and in the degree of industry concentration.

In both 1984 and 1987, 81 percent of Graduate Degree holders were to be found in the top four industries of Education, Government Service, Business Service, and Health & Social Services. These same industries were also the most common among Undergraduate Degree holders in both 1984 and 1987, but the concentration was lower at 69 and 67 percent respectively (Table 5.4 and Figure 5.3).

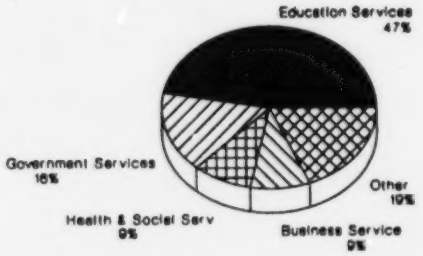
Table 5.4
Industry (Standard Industrial Classification) of University Graduates
June, 1984 and March, 1987

Industry	Graduate Degrees (%)		Undergraduate Degrees (%)	
	1984	1987	1984	1987
Agriculture & Related	0.2	--	--	--
Fishing & Trapping	--	--	--	--
Logging & Forestry	0.6	--	--	--
Mining & Oil Wells	7.2	6.8	6.2	7.0
Manufacturing	2.7	2.5	3.2*	3.2*
Construction	0.8	--	--	--
Transport. & Storage	0.9	--	--	--
Communications & Utilities	1.3	--	2.6*	3.1*
Wholesale Trade	1.4	--	2.4*	2.5*
Retail Trade	0.5	--	3.6*	4.4*
Finance & Insurance	1.5	--	3.0*	3.7*
Real Estate & Ins.	0.2	--	--	--
Business Service	8.9	12.8	11.4	12.6
Government Services	15.6	13.8	12.1	8.2
Education Services	47.0	43.9	25.9	27.3
Health & Social Serv.	9.3	10.2	19.9	18.6
Accom., Food & Bev	0.2	--	--	--
Other Service	1.9	--	3.4*	4.3*
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**746**	**748**	**5,354**	**5,483**

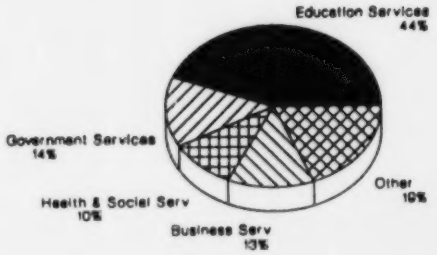
* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size
-- Data are not reliable enough to be released

Figure 5.3
Top University Industries - 1984 and 1987

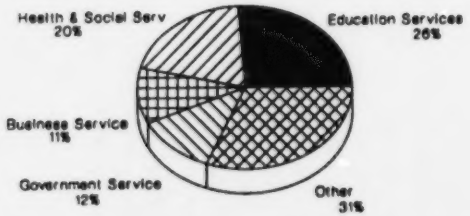
Graduate Degrees - 1984



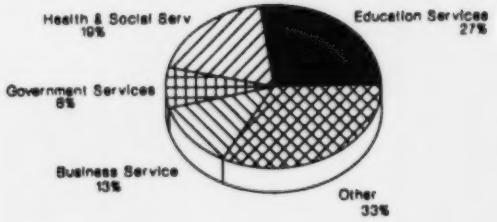
Graduate Degrees - 1987



Undergraduate Degrees - 1984



Undergraduate Degrees - 1987



Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

Table 5.5 and Figure 5.4 show that in both 1984 and 1987 less than half of the College/Technical graduates were concentrated in the top four industries of Health & Social Services, Government Service, Manufacturing, and Business Service. One in four of the Trade/Vocational graduates were in Health and Social Services, followed by Government Service, Manufacturing, and Retail Trade.

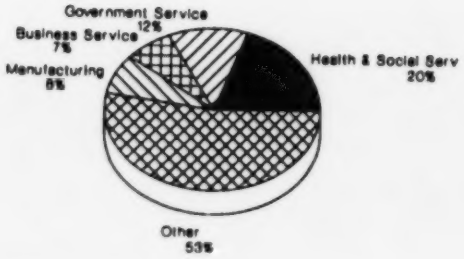
Table 5.5
Industry (Standard Industrial Classification) of College/Technical and Trade/Vocational Graduates
June, 1984 and March, 1987

	College/Technical (%)		Trade/Vocational (%)	
Industry	1984	1987	1984	1987
Agriculture & Related	4.0	4.1*	5.2*	5.0*
Fishing & Trapping	--	--	--	--
Logging & Forestry	--	--	--	--
Mining & Oil Wells	6.3	5.5	--	5.7*
Manufacturing	8.3	8.6	10.0	10.9
Construction	3.6	2.6*	6.4*	4.5*
Transport. & Storage	2.4*	2.2*	--	--
Communications & Utilities	5.3	5.6	--	--
Wholesale Trade	4.6	4.4	--	--
Retail Trade	8.7	7.6	9.5	10.0
Finance & Insurance	3.2*	3.2*	--	--
Real Estate & Ins.	--	2.1*	--	--
Business Service	7.0	8.6	--	4.3*
Government Service	11.5	10.7	11.2	13.4
Education Service	5.5	6.8	--	--
Health & Social Serv.	19.9	20.1	26.3	26.4
Accom., Food & Bev.	3.7	3.1*	5.2*	5.6*
Other Service	3.9	4.0*	5.4*	--
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**5,121**	**4,910**	**855**	**851**

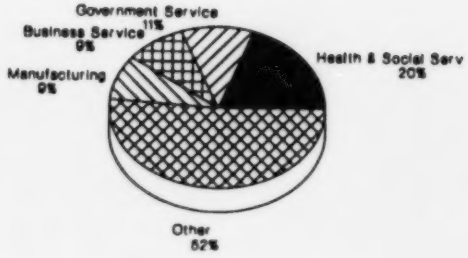
* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size
-- Data are not reliable enough to be releases

Figure 5.4
Top Industries - 1984 and 1987

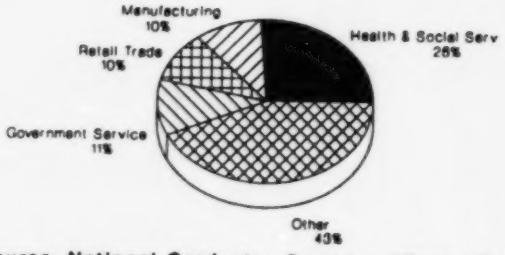
College/Technical - 1984



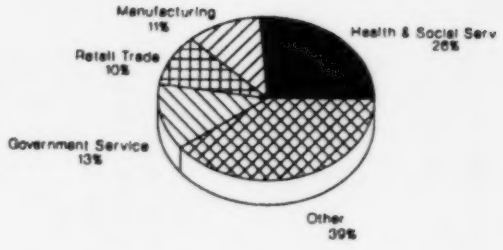
College/Technical - 1987



Trade/Vocational - 1984



Trade/Vocational - 1987



Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

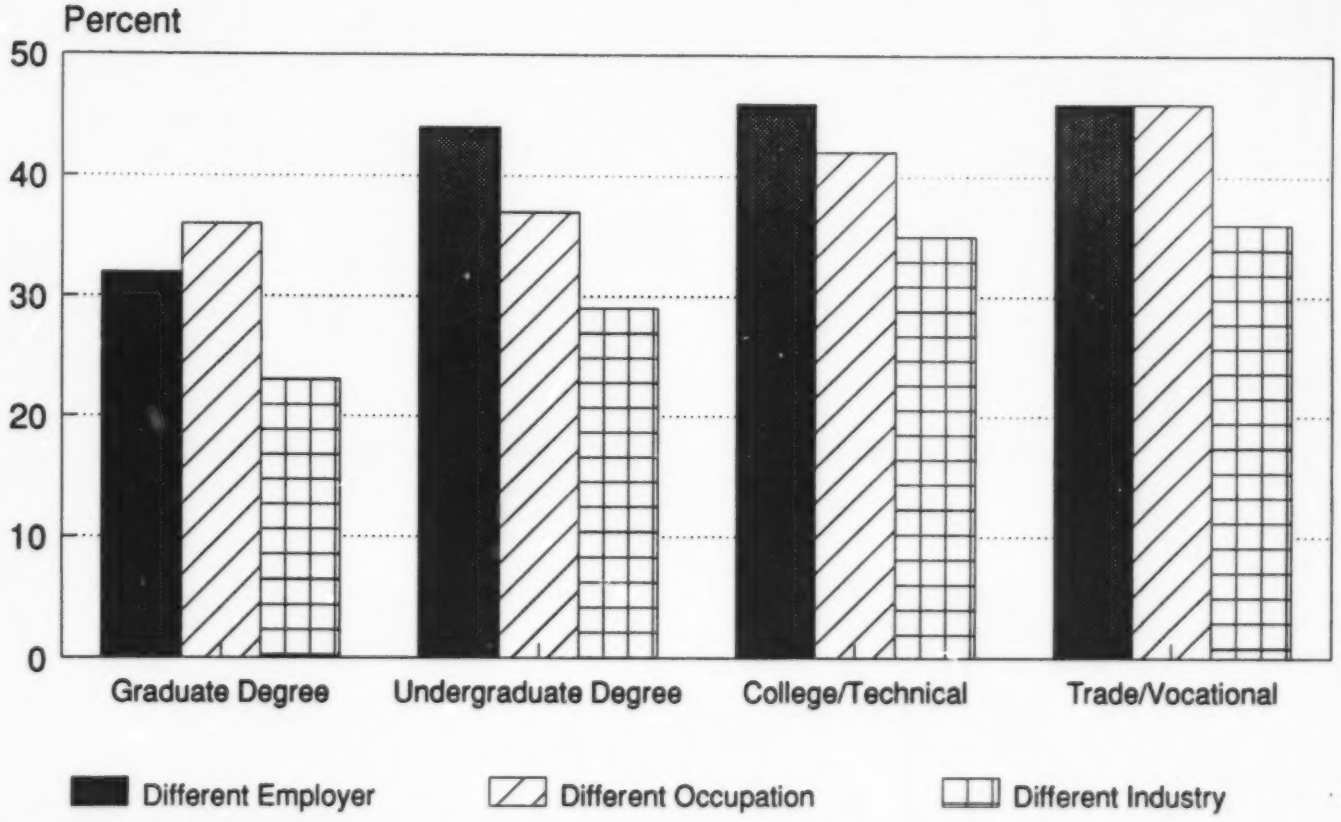
5.3.1 Employment Mobility

An analysis of Table 5.6 and Figure 5.5 reveals two main trends: First, there was more employment mobility at each successively lower level of certification. Second, at all levels of certification, graduates were more likely to change employers and occupations than industries.

Table 5.6
Employment Mobility Between June 1984 and March 1987

Employment Mobility Between June 1984 and March 1987	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Tech. (%)	Trade/ Voc. (%)
Different Employer	32.0	43.8	45.7	45.7
Different Occupation (4 digit SOC)	36.4	37.1	42.4	46.0
Different Industry (3 digit SIC)	22.7	28.6	35.0	36.2

Figure 5.5
Employment Mobility Between
1984 and 1987



Source: Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

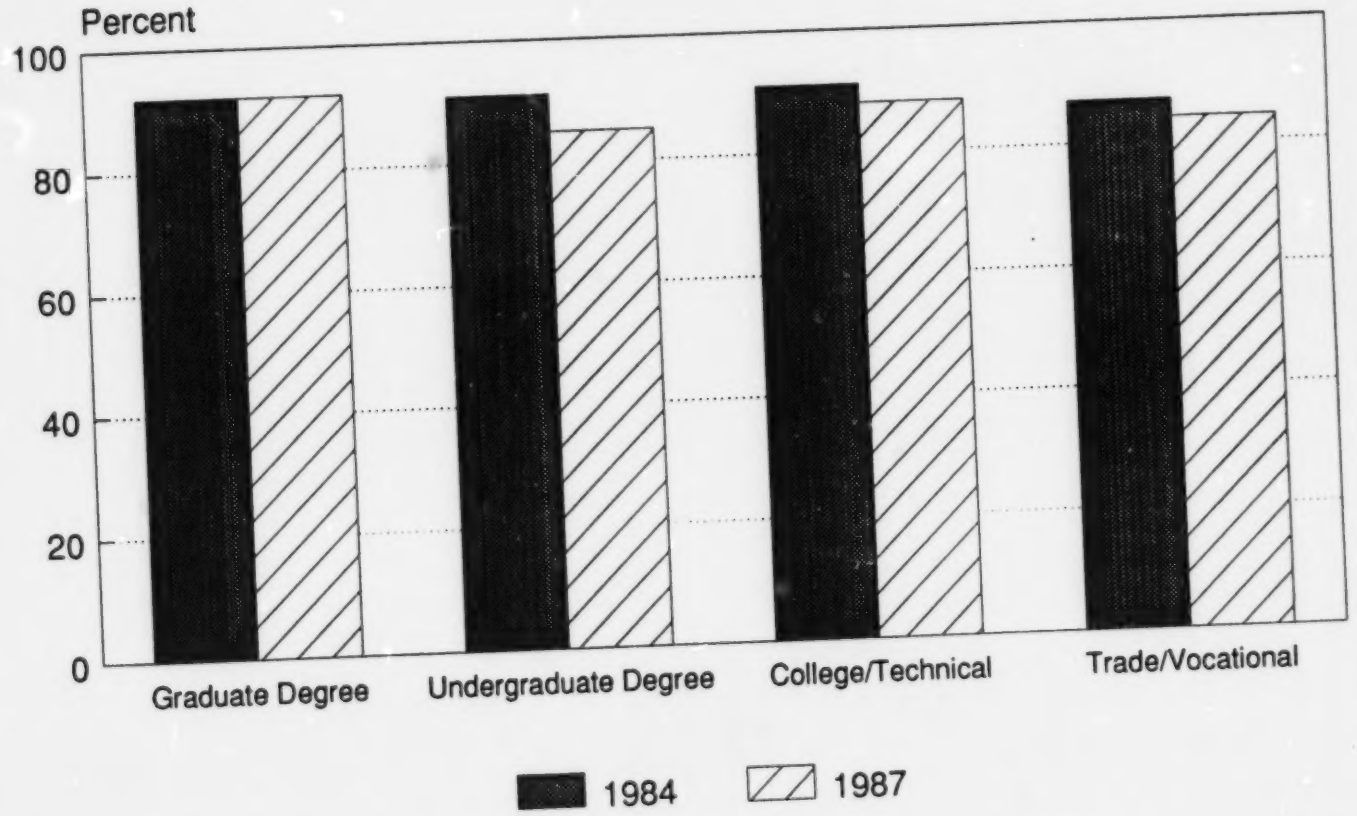
5.4 Full-Time/Part-Time Employment

Between 84 percent and 92 percent of all graduates employed in March 1987 were working full-time (Table 5.7). Since 1984, there was an increase in the proportion working part-time in all categories except that of Graduate Degree holders (Figure 5.6).

Table 5.7
Job Status - Full-Time/Part-time
1984 and 1987

Type of Employment Full-Time/Part-Time	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
June, 1984				
Full-Time	91.6	90.5	90.6	86.8
Part-Time	8.4	9.5	9.4	13.2
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**749**	**5,276**	**5,129**	**845**
March, 1987				
Full-Time	91.6	84.9	87.9	83.6
Part-Time	8.4	15.1	12.1	16.4
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**738**	**5,336**	**4,788**	**830**

Figure 5.6
Percentage of Graduates in Full-Time Jobs - 1984 and 1987



Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

5.5 Permanent/Temporary Employment

As might be expected, there was a substantial increase between 1984 and 1987 in the number of graduates employed in permanent positions (Table 5.8 and Figure 5.7). The increase was most marked in the case of holders of Undergraduate Degrees.

Table 5.8
Job Status - Permanent/Temporary
1984 and 1987

Status	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
June, 1984				
Permanent	82.6	72.6	84.8	83.4
Temporary	17.4	27.4	15.2	16.6
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**684**	**4,908**	**4,791**	**785**
March, 1987				
Permanent	91.7	87.5	93.4	88.0
Temporary	8.3	12.5	6.6	12.0
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**706**	**4,995**	**4,642**	**783**

5.6 Earnings

The very substantial earnings differences existing in 1984 between the four levels of certification continued in 1987 (Table 5.9 and Figure 5.8). However, the rate of increase between 1984 and 1987 was inversely proportional to the level of certification, with earnings of Trade/Vocational graduates increasing 31 percent while those of Graduate Degree holders increased only 14 percent.

Table 5.9
Estimated Median Annual Earnings of 1982 Graduates
Employed Full-Time, 1984 and 1987[4]

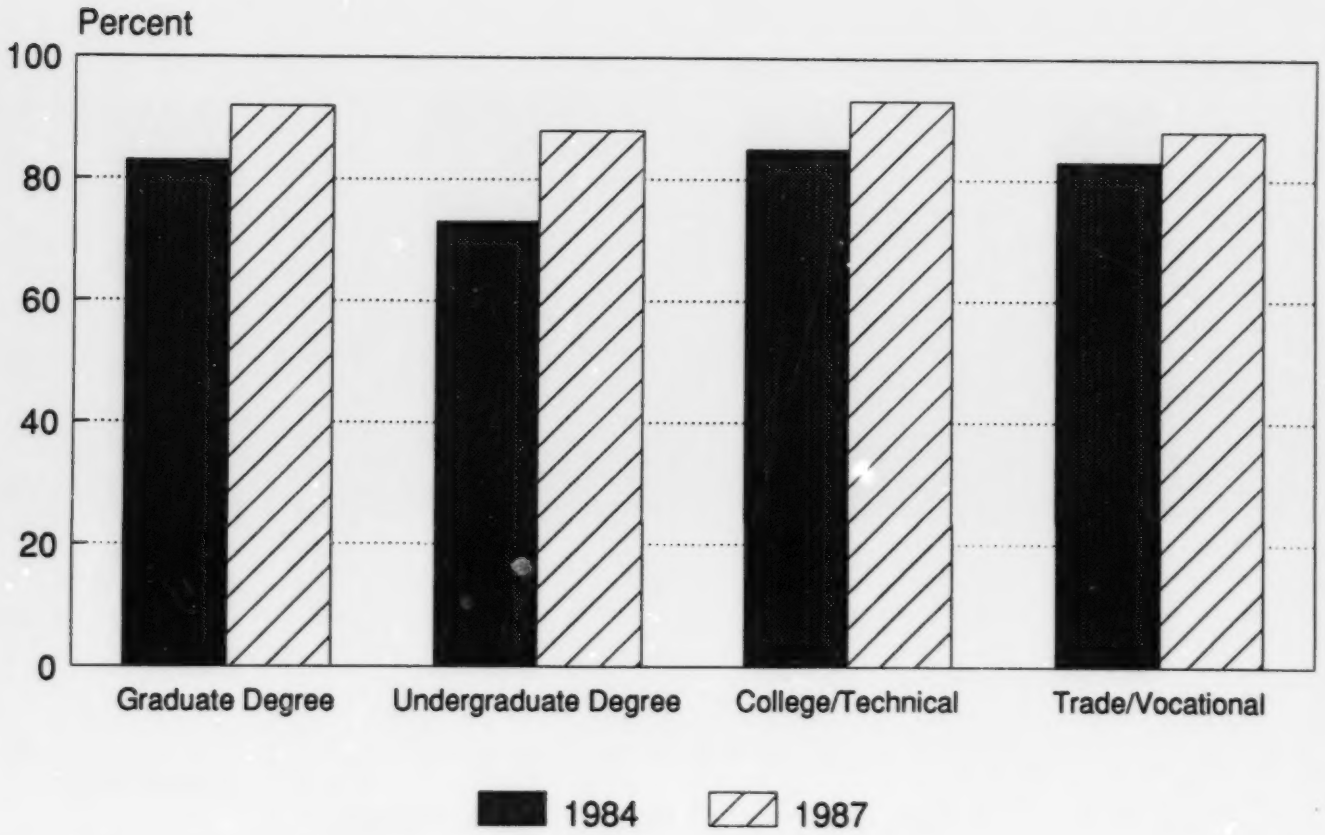
Earnings	Graduate Degrees ($000's)	Undergraduate Degrees ($000's)	College/ Technical ($000's)	Trade/ Vocational ($000's)
June, 1984				
Male	37.0	25.0	23.0	18.0
Female	33.0	24.0	18.0	15.0
Both Genders	**36.0**	**25.0**	**20.0**	**16.0**
March, 1987				
Male	44.0	34.0	30.0	24.0
Female	40.0	30.0	23.0	20.0
Both Genders	**41.0**	**31.0**	**26.0**	**21.0**

As in 1984, male graduates, at all levels of certification, earned more than their female counterparts. Beginning at the Graduate Degree level and ending at the Trade/Vocational level, female graduates earned 91 percent, 88 percent, 77 percent and 83 percent of what their male counterparts earned. However, between 1984 and 1987, this earnings imbalance between men and women narrowed slightly at the Graduate Degree level and widened substantially only at the Undergraduate Degree level (Figure 5.9).

[4] The question asked was "If you were to work at that job for the 12 months of 1987, approximately what would be your gross earnings?"

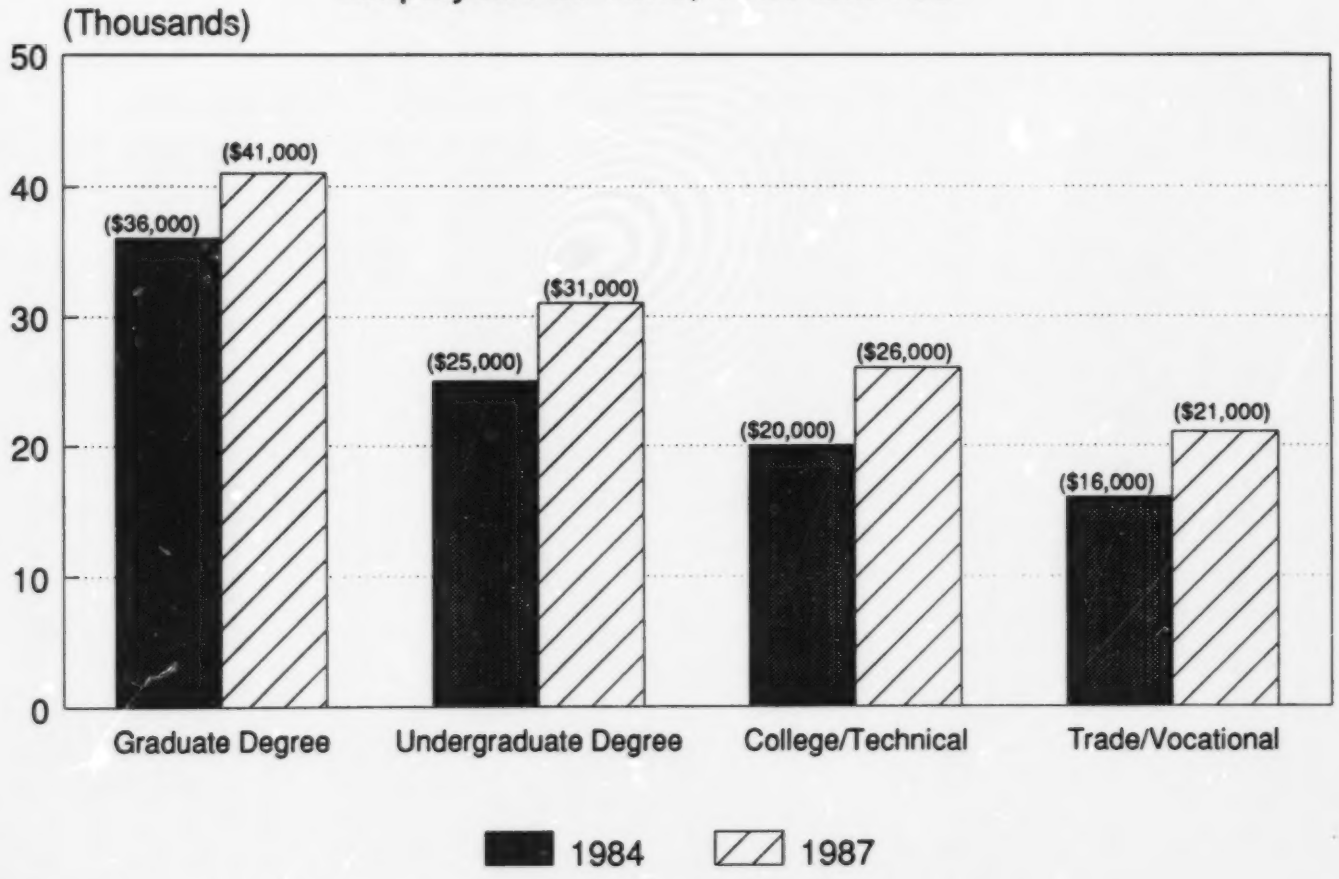
NOTE: PAGES 32 AND 33 HAVE BEEN TRANSPOSED

Figure 5.7
Percentage of Graduates in Permanent Jobs - 1984 and 1987



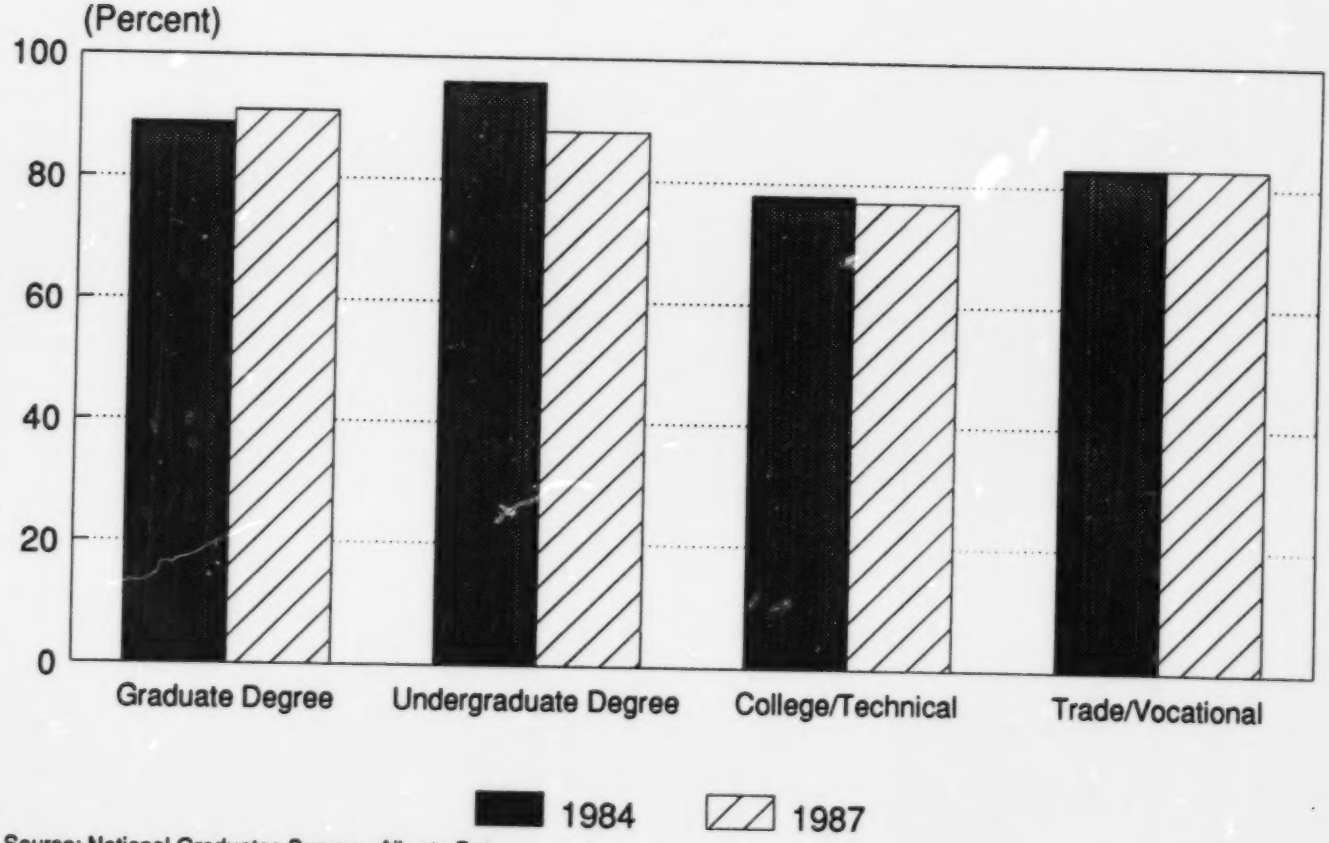
Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

Figure 5.8
Estimated Median Annual Earnings of Graduates
Employed Full-Time, 1984 and 1987



Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

Figure 5.9
Women's Earnings as a Percentage Of Men's - 1984 and 1987



Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

5.7 Salary Satisfaction

A comparison of Tables 5.10 and 5.11 indicates that considerably fewer graduates were very satisfied with their salaries than were very satisfied with their jobs. This was true of all levels of certification. Likewise, the proportion expressing dissatisfaction with their salaries was higher than the proportion expressing dissatisfaction with their jobs.

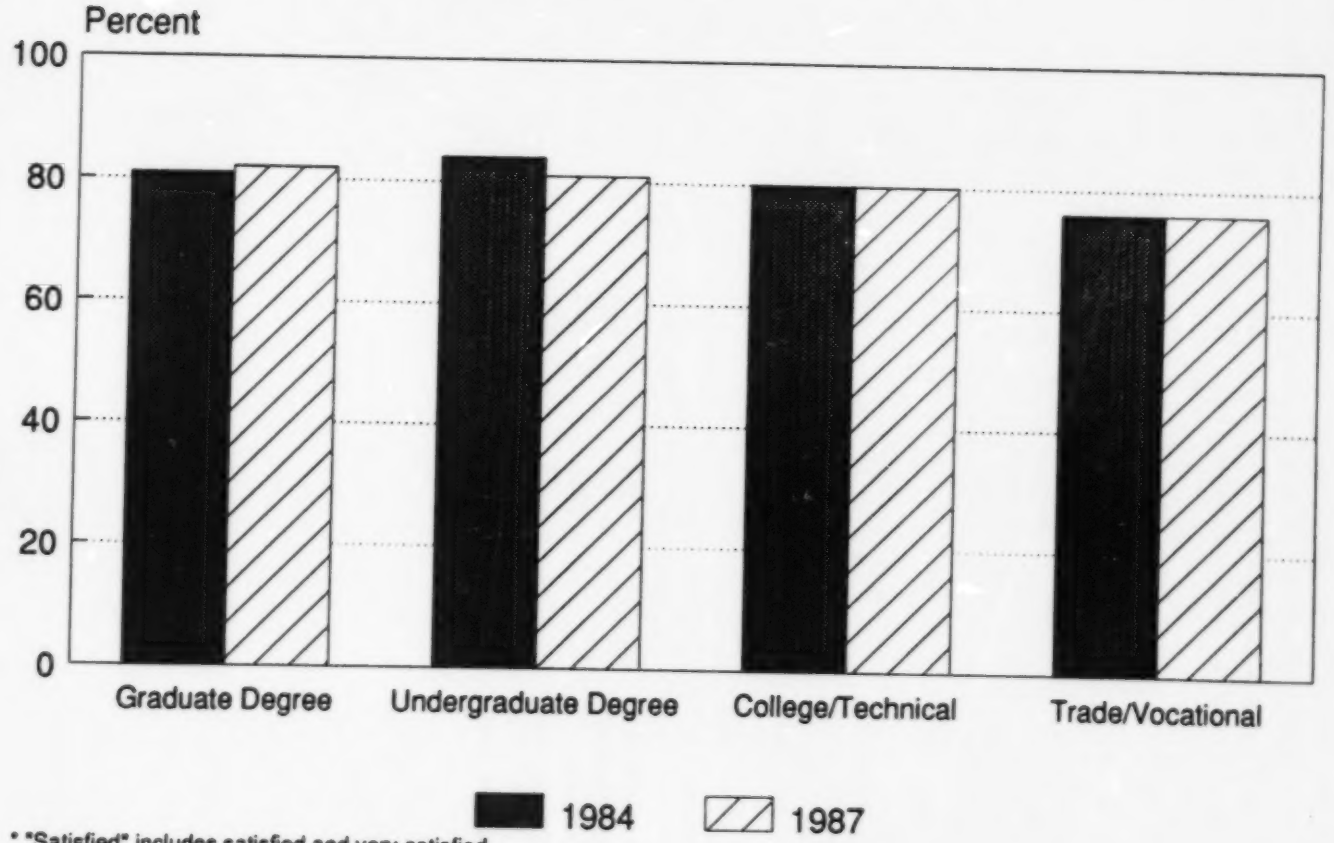
There were no major changes in salary satisfaction between 1984 and 1987 (Figure 5.10).

Table 5.10
Salary Satisfaction
1984 and 1987

Satisfaction With Job Salary	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
June, 1984				
Very Satisfied	28.7	27.5	25.2	19.7
Satisfied	52.0	56.1	55.2	56.2
Not very Satisfied	16.5	12.3	14.8	20.6
Not At All Satisfied	2.8	4.1*	4.8	3.6*
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total Graduates	**677**	**4,863**	**4,797**	**778**
March, 1987				
Very Satisfied	29.0	24.5	21.8	23.6
Satisfied	53.2	56.8	58.5	52.1
Not very Satisfied	13.5	15.9	14.8	17.3
Not At All Satisfied	4.3	2.9*	4.9	7.0*
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total Graduates	**739**	**5,303**	**4,828**	**827**

* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size.

Figure 5.10
Percentage of Graduates Satisfied With Their Salaries - 1984 and 1987



* "Satisfied" includes satisfied and very satisfied

Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

5.8 Job Satisfaction

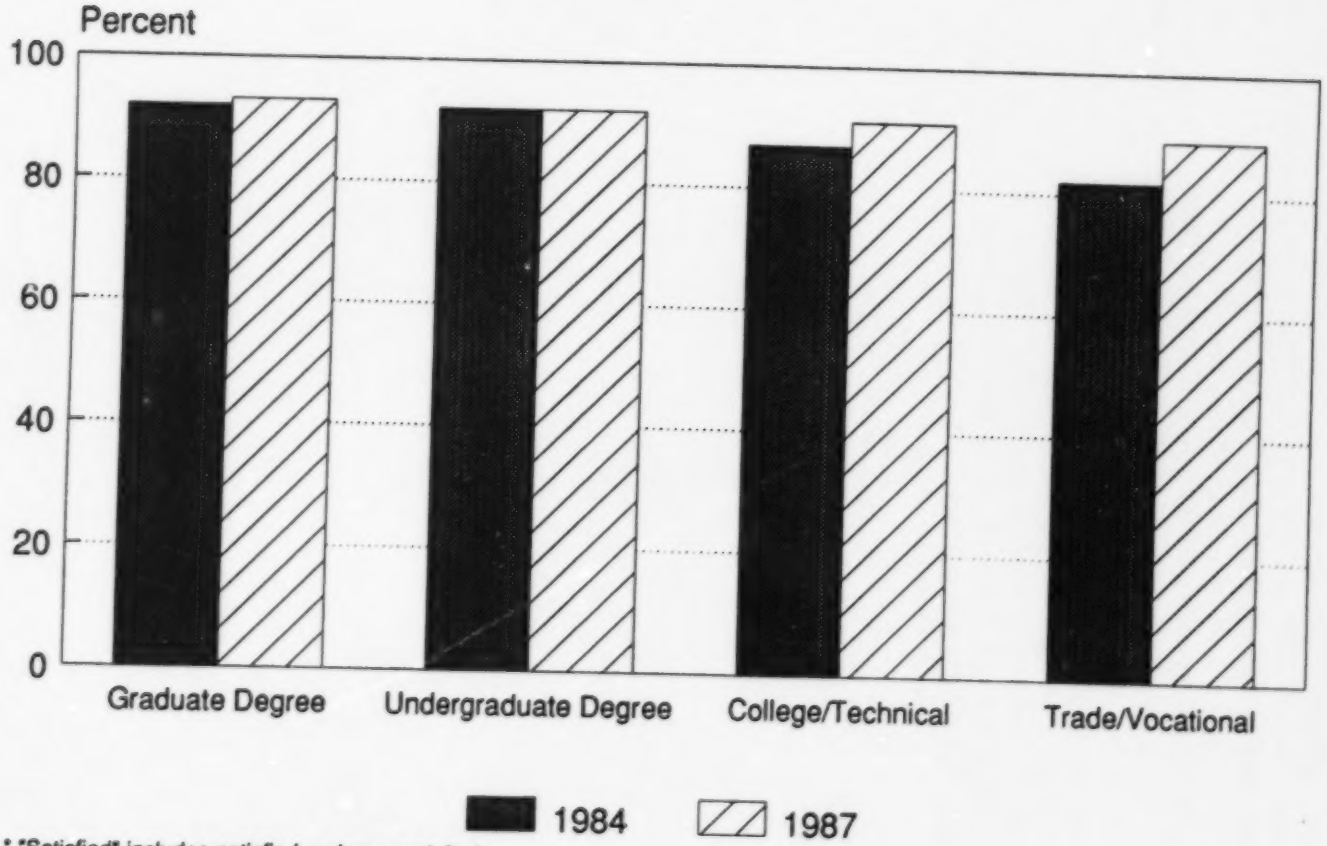
Between 1984 and 1987, job satisfaction remained high at all four levels of certification; there was virtually no change in the proportion of university graduates who were satisfied or very satisfied with their jobs and a small increase in this proportion at the College/Technical and Trade/Vocational levels (Table 5.11 and Figure 5.11).

Table 5.11
Job Satisfaction
1984 and 1987

Job Satisfaction	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
June, 1984				
Very Satisfied	57.7	49.3	44.5	38.9
Satisfied	33.5	42.3	42.4	43.3
Not Very Satisfied	7.1	6.5	10.4	15.1
Not At All Satisfied	--	--	2.8*	--
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**674**	**4,863**	**4,797**	**779**
March, 1987				
Very Satisfied	60.4	51.9	45.8	41.0
Satisfied	32.5	40.5	45.0	48.3
Not Very Satisfied	6.8	5.5	6.6	6.7*
Not At All Satisfied	--	2.2*	2.6*	--
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**739**	**5,328**	**4,816**	**830**

* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size.
-- Data are not reliable enough to be released.

Figure 5.11
Percentage of Graduates Satisfied With Their Jobs - 1984 and 1987*



* "Satisfied" includes satisfied and very satisfied

Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

5.9 Summary of Employed Graduates

In general, graduates from all levels of certification shared similar labour-market experiences. In both 1984 and 1987, the vast majority of respondents were full-time, permanent employees satisfied with their jobs and salaries.

Some labour-market outcomes, however, varied across certification levels. For example, earnings varied positively with certification level. That is, graduates from each successively higher level of certification earned more money in both 1984 and 1987. Moreover, not all graduates occupied common occupations and industries. At the university level, the top occupations and industries in both 1984 and 1987 were Teaching & Related and Education Services respectively, while at the College/Technical and Trade/Vocational levels, Medicine & Health and Clerical & Related were the top occupations, and Health & Social Services the top industry.

6.0 Jobs, Education, and Job Relatedness

6.1 Match Between Job Requirements and Attained Education

In 1987, only in the case of bachelors degree holders did the majority of respondents have the required level of education for the job (Table 6.1). Half of the Graduate Degree holders and College/Technical graduates, and more than one third of Trade/Vocational graduates were overqualified for their jobs.

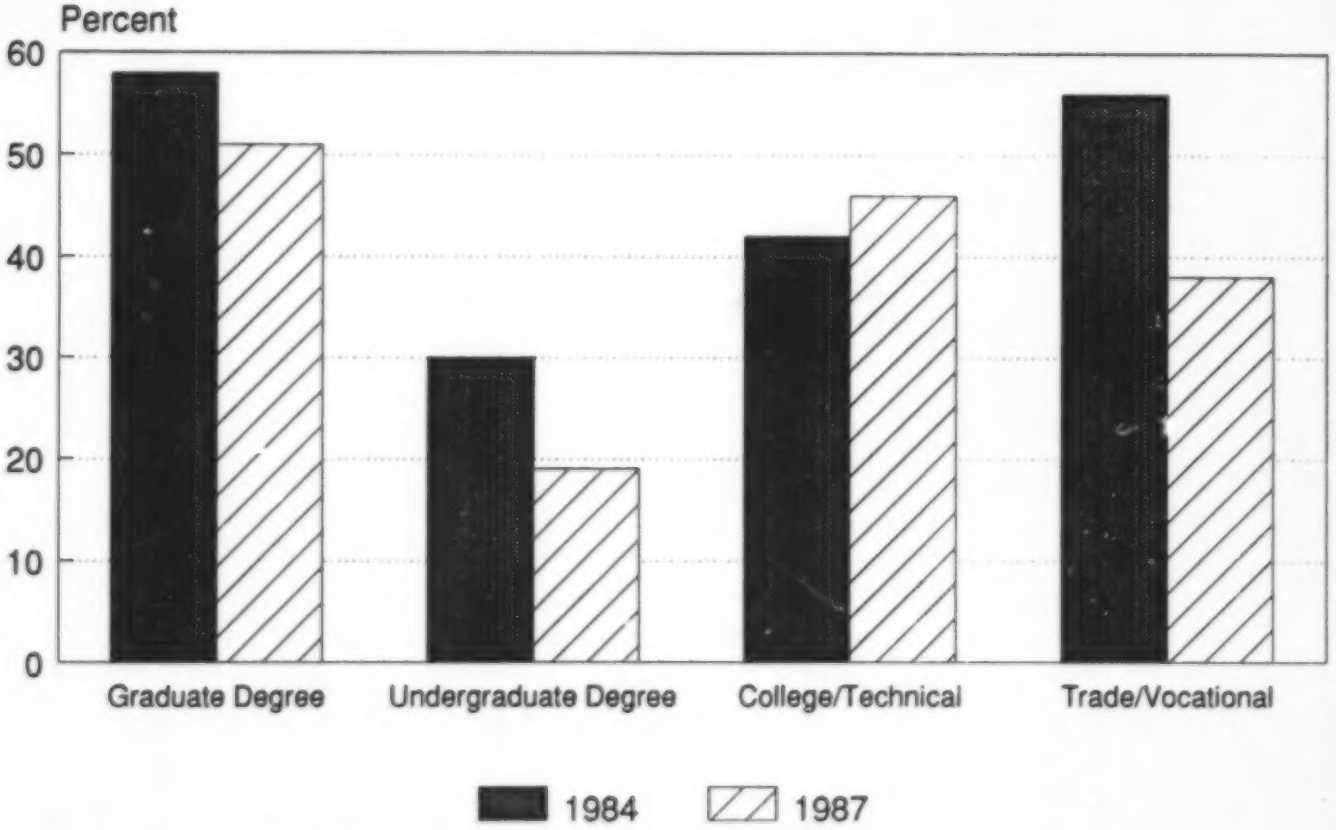
With the exception of the College/Technical level, the proportion of graduates overqualified for their jobs declined substantially between 1984 and 1987 (Figure 6.1).

Table 6.1
Educational Level Required for Job vs 1982 Educational Level
1984 and 1987

Education/Job Match	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
June, 1984				
Has More Education	58.4	29.7	41.9	56.3
Has Same Education	33.9	52.4	51.9	37.8
Has Less Education	--	2.6*	2.0*	3.7
Not Determinable	6.7	15.3	4.2	5.3
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**690**	**4,941**	**4,837**	**793**
March, 1987				
Has More Education	50.5	18.9	46.0	38.3
Has Same Education	42.3	70.4	41.8	45.8
Has Less Education	3.5	7.8	8.1	8.3*
Not Determinable	3.8	2.9*	4.1*	7.6*
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**679**	**4,846**	**4,515**	**758**

* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size.
-- Data are not reliable enough to be released.

Figure 6.1
Percentage of Graduates Overqualified
For Their Jobs - 1984 and 1987



Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

6.2 Satisfaction With Program of Studies

As Table 6.2 indicates, university graduates were more likely than College/Technical or Trade/Vocational graduates to express satisfaction with their programs of study, as measured by whether or not they would choose the same program again. This tendency was somewhat stronger in 1987 than it was in 1984. Moreover, with the exception of the College/Technical level, graduates' satisfaction levels remained relatively constant over time.

Table 6.2
Education Program Selected if Given a Choice
Two and Five Years After Graduation

Education Program Selected if Given a Choice	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
June, 1984				
Same Program	80.8	72.5	66.0	61.8
Different Program	17.7	26.3	32.6	35.4
No Program	1.5	1.2	1.4	2.8
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**859**	**6,273**	**5,824**	**1,127**
March, 1987				
Same Program	79.8	71.5	59.6	59.7
Different Program	20.0	27.7	39.8	39.9
No Program	--	--	--	--
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**813**	**6,097**	**5,746**	**1,113**

6.3 Relatedness of March 1987 Job to Program of Studies Graduated from in 1982

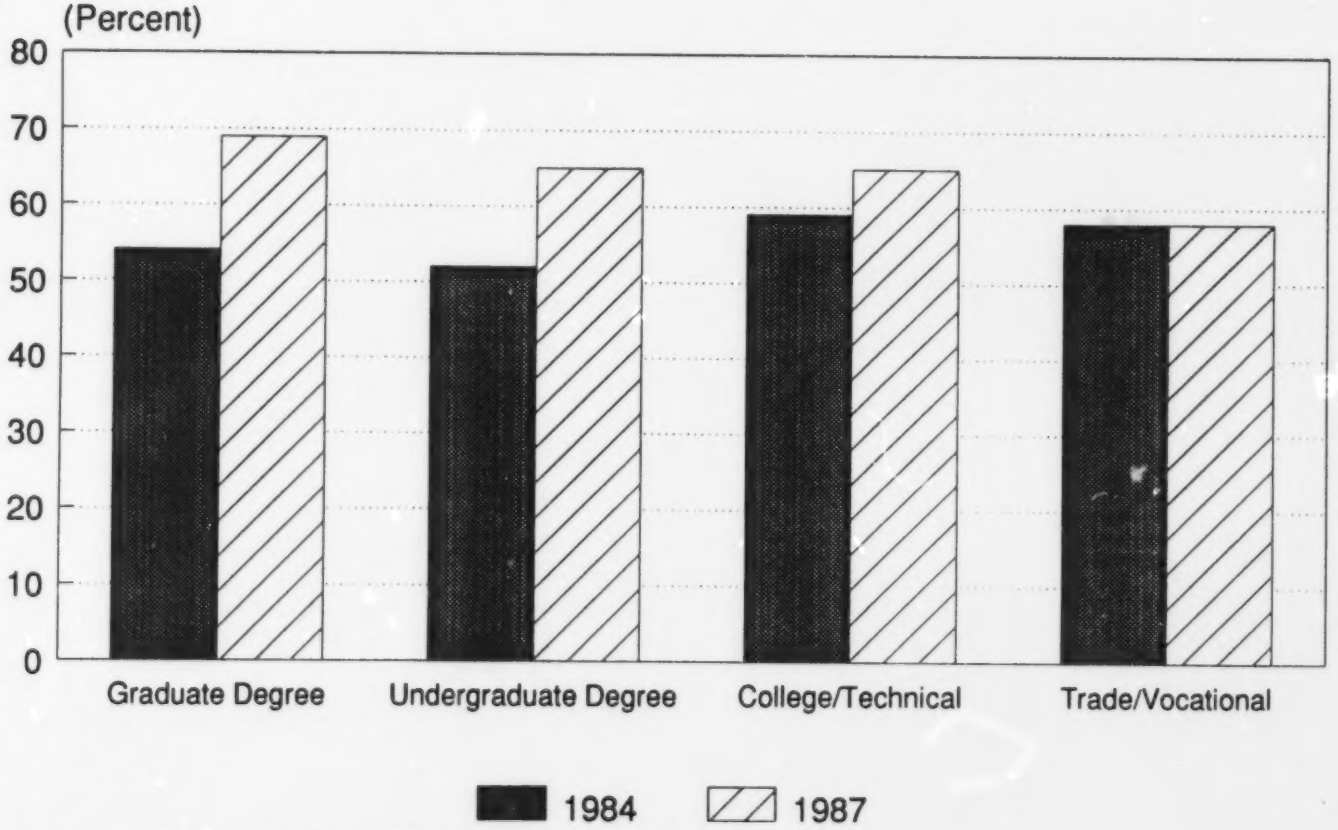
In both 1984 and 1987, the majority of graduates at all levels of certification were working in jobs directly or partly related to their programs of study. Moreover, between 1984 and 1987, there was an increase at all levels of certification except Trade/Vocational, in the proportion of respondents who held jobs directly related to their programs of study (Table 6.3 and Figure 6.2). As time passes therefore, it seems that an increasing proportion of graduates are able to find employment in their chosen fields. However, nearly one in four Trade/Vocational graduates were still working in jobs unrelated to their programs of studies in 1987.

Table 6.3
Relatedness of Job to Program of Studies Graduated from in 1982
1984 and 1987

Relatedness of Job to Program of Studies	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
June, 1984				
Directly Related	54.1	52.1	58.6	58.1
Partly Related	38.4	31.9	20.2	15.5
Unrelated	7.5	15.9	21.2	26.4
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	**682**	**4,857**	**4,798**	**785**
March, 1987				
Directly Related	68.9	65.2	65.3	58.0
Partly Related	27.7	22.3	19.0	18.4
Unrelated	3.4	12.5	15.7	23.6
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Number of Graduates	739	5,345	4,830	846

-- Data are not reliable enough to be released.

Figure 6.2
Percentage of Graduates in Directly Related Jobs - 1984 and 1987



Source: National Graduates Survey - Alberta Data
Follow-up Survey of 1982 Graduates - Alberta Data

6.4 Importance of Job Relatedness

The vast majority of graduates in both 1984 and 1987 felt that it was important or very important that their jobs be related to their programs of study. Moreover, between 1984 and 1987, there was virtually no change in the proportion of university graduates who held this belief (Table 6.4). However, at the College/Technical level, the proportion of graduates subscribing to this notion dropped in 1987.

Table 6.4
Importance of Job Relatedness to Program of Studies
1984 and 1987

Importance of Job Relatedness to Program of Studies	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational— (%)
June, 1984				
Very Important	54.8	50.9	58.7	
Important	34.7	35.9	33.3	
Not Very Important	8.8	11.2	6.3	
Not At All Important	--	--	--	
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	
Total Graduates	**861**	**6,265**	**5,824**	
March, 1987				
Very Important	57.8	54.2	47.6	47.9
Important	29.6	31.4	36.2	40.2
Not Very Important	11.1	10.9	12.4	9.1
Not At All Important	--	3.1*	3.7*	--
Total Percentage	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total Graduates	**815**	**6,108**	**5,746**	**1,113**

* Data may not be reliable due to small cell size
-- Data are not reliable enough to be released
— Data for Trade/Vocational graduates was not available in 1984

6.5 Summary of Education and Job Requirements

Overall, graduates were able to use their acquired skills in the labour market. In both 1984 and 1987, the vast majority of graduates were working in jobs that were directly or partly related to the programs from which they graduated in 1982. Undergraduate Degree holders had the best education - job match in both 1984 and 1987; at other certification levels, many graduates were overqualified for their jobs, though this proportion had dropped substantially at most certification levels by 1987.

7.0 Further Studies After Graduation

7.1 Enrolment in Further Education

Half of the Undergraduate Degree holders, and about one in three of the graduates at the other levels of certification were enrolled in a credit course at some time between June, 1984 and March, 1987. Table 7.1 indicates the percentage who were enrolled during any of four reference periods. At all four points in time, enrollment was highest among holders of Undergraduate Degrees and lowest among Trade/Vocational graduates.

Table 7.1
Percentage of 1982 Graduates Enrolled in Credit Course(s)
1984 to 1987

Reference Period	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade Vocational (%)
January 1985	18.3	28.3	16.8	7.8
Last Week of January 1986	17.5	23.1	18.6	11.9
Last Week of October 1986	18.4	23.9	16.3	10.2
First Week of March 1987	16.7	21.5	16.8	9.8
Any Time Between June 1984 and March 1987	34.9	49.2	37.7	30.6

For holders of Undergraduate Degrees, the percentage enrolled decreased between 1985 and 1987, but no clear trend was apparent in the case of the other levels of certification.

Table 7.2 shows the proportion of graduates enrolled full-time in credit courses. At the university level, this proportion declined between 1985 and 1987; the converse was true at the College/Technical and Trade/Vocational levels.

Table 7.2
Percentage of 1982 Graduates Enrolled Full-Time in Credit Course(s)
1984 to 1987

Reference Period	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade Vocational (%)
January 1985	11.4	14.5	7.7	4.9
Last Week of January 1986	9.0	10.2	9.5	7.2
Last Week of October 1986	7.7	9.1	8.9	5.9
First Week of March 1987	7.3	9.0	8.5	5.1

7.2 Higher Qualifications Obtained

As indicated in Table 7.3, since graduating in 1982, Undergraduate Degree holders were the most likely to have obtained further qualifications; approximately 40 percent of them had done so. Trade/Vocational graduates were the next most likely at 30 percent, and College/Technical and Graduate Degree holders were the least likely to have obtained further qualifications at 24 and 21 percent respectively.

Table 7.3
Percentage of 1982 Graduates Who Have Completed Other Programs Since Graduation

Reference Period	Graduate Degrees (%)	Undergraduate Degrees (%)	College/ Technical (%)	Trade/ Vocational (%)
Graduation - June 1984*	8.0	13.3	9.7	13.2
June 1984 - March 1987**	12.8	24.5	13.8	17.7

* The question asked in June 1984 was: "Since completing the (1982) program, have you completed any other university, college or vocational programs?"

** The question asked in March 1987 was: "Since 1984, have you completed the requirements for any degrees, diplomas, certificates or licenses? By completed I mean, for example, write the last exam, or submit the last paper, report or project, or defend your thesis?"

By 1987, 11 percent of Undergraduate Degree holders had obtained a master's degree or certificate, while 3 percent of those with master's degrees had obtained a doctorate. Eight percent of College/Technical had obtained an undergraduate qualification,[5] and 8 percent of Trade/Vocational graduates had obtained a college diploma or certificate.

[5] College graduates of university transfer programs were excluded from the survey.